



NO. 3004.

WEATHER—FAIR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1915.

ONE CENT In Washington and Points Suburban Thereof. ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.

U. S. NOTE TO BRITAIN COUCHED IN PACIFIC BUT FIRM LANGUAGE

Friendly Spirit Is Shown In Demand; London Gets Shock

State Department Gives Out Text of Communication Protesting Against British Interference with American Shipping—Diplomatic Ethics Said to Have Been Shattered by Handling of Presentation Ceremony by American Ambassador—Britain's Press Bureau Denies that There Has Been Any Violation of Usages—United States Warned Great Britain that Her Attitude Is Likely to Result in Alienation of American Sympathy.

DESIRE EXPRESSED THAT DETAILS OF POLICY TO BE FOLLOWED IN FUTURE BE MADE PLAIN

The complete text of the American note of protest to Great Britain with regard to British interference with neutral trade during the war was made public by the State Department last night. The note was given out in accordance with an arrangement made with the British foreign office, on the initiative of the United States, for its simultaneous publication in both countries.

The text of the note shows that the document contains nothing of first importance not already known to the public of both countries, but does reveal that the first impression as to the severity of the note is not borne out by the paper itself. In no place is it asserted that the United States cannot "tolerate" British practices, nor is this government in any way committed to any extreme measures in case Great Britain does not change her practices as desired.

UNITED STATES WOULD KNOW DETAILS OF BRITISH POLICY.

The nearest approach to anything in the nature of a threat is considered to be the request that Great Britain inform the United States as to the manner in which it intends to execute its policy, in order that this government "may determine the steps necessary to protect our citizens in their rights and from the serious losses to which they are liable through ignorance of the hazards to which their cargoes are exposed." The only other statement in the note approaching this in character is that "this government cannot without protest permit." etc.

On the other hand, those who drafted the note took pains in several places to emphasize the desire of the United States to treat the issues involved with England in the most friendly way. These explanatory and assuring statements, it is believed, will allay the apprehensions of those who feared the United States had ventured in deeper than was wise. There is little doubt that these paragraphs will remove the why the American government was desirous.

Particular interest was aroused which, in a sort of heart-to-heart government in relation to its own grumbling among the trade interest only compelled the Washington result in an alienation of American.

Great Britain is warned, in the will of the American public during the present causes of complaint. On the whole, however, the note is regarded as a most calm, dignified and restrained communication, and it is generally believed this character of the note will, in the end, be more likely to achieve more for American interests than would any attempt to twist the lion's tail.

TEXT OF NOTE SENT AS INSTRUCTIONS.
The note, sent in the form of an instruction to Ambassador Page, at London, is as follows:

Department of State,
Washington, Dec. 26, 1914.
The present condition of American foreign trade resulting from the frequent seizures and detentions of American cargoes destined to neutral European ports has become so serious as to require a candid statement of the views of this government in order that the British government may be fully informed as to the attitude of the United States toward the policy which has been pursued by the British authorities during the present war.

You will, therefore, communicate the following to his majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, but in doing so you will assure him that it is done in the most friendly spirit and in the belief that frankness will better serve the continuance of cordial relations between the two countries than silence, which may be misconstrued into acquiescence in a course of conduct which this government cannot but consider to be an infringement upon the rights of American citizens.

Y. S. Luskent at First.
The government of the United States has viewed with growing concern the large number of vessels laden with American goods destined to neutral ports in Europe, which have been seized on the high seas, taken into British ports and detained sometimes for weeks by the British authorities. During the early days of the war this government assumed that the policy adopted by the British government was due to the unexpected outbreak of hostilities and the necessity of immediate action to prevent contraband from reaching the enemy. For this reason it was not disposed to judge this policy harshly or protest it vigorously, although it was manifestly very injurious to

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NOTE WAS LATE; BRITISH SHOCKED

Ambassador Page Shattered
Diplomatic Usage, Is
Contention.

DISCOURTESY IS DENIED

Press Bureau and London Times in
Controversy as to Time of Ar-
rival of Communication.

London, Dec. 31.—Considerable embarrassment to the British government and no little comment have arisen from the fact that Ambassador Page departed from diplomatic usage in the delivery of America's highly important protest against interference with her over-sea commerce by the British navy. The note, 1,500 words long, arrived at the American Embassy the latter part of last week, and three clerks immediately began to translate it from code.

This was not completed until Monday, Sir Edward Grey, British secretary of foreign affairs, had not returned from his Christmas holiday, and Lord Haldane was acting in his stead.

On Monday Ambassador Page informed Lord Haldane that a note had arrived and explained its general purpose. He added that the note was being decoded. Diplomatic ethics require that the ambassador of the protesting nation shall take any such note to the foreign office of the nation to which he is accredited and deliver it in person, with some ceremony.

Finally "Turns Up."

Instead, Page sent the text of the complaint to the foreign office by messenger. To whom it was delivered or just what became of it there is not known.

As late as Monday night no one at the foreign office had seen the note, and officials were reluctant to talk about it. All they knew of its contents was what they had read in cabled dispatches from Washington.

Sir Edward Grey returned Wednesday morning and hurried to his office to tackle the new problem. The American note eventually "turned up" and in a little while was placed before the British cabinet.

The London Times learned Tuesday of the arrival of the note and stated Wednesday morning it had been delivered to the foreign office. This was true, but the fact that the foreign office did not receive it until Wednesday morning is not mentioned in the following statement issued by the official press bureau Wednesday afternoon:

Press Report Denied.
"There is no truth in the statement that the note of the United States government on the subject of interfering with trade was presented by the American Ambassador to Lord Haldane at the foreign office yesterday. The note from the United States government has only been received today (Wednesday)."

On this statement the London Times commented as follows today:

"It is necessary to add in courtesy to the United States government that while the first paragraph of the press bureau statement is technically accurate, there is no truth in the last paragraph. Obviously, the United States government was not likely to be guilty of such a breach of etiquette as to publish a summary of the note on the day before its actual delivery to the foreign office by the Ambassador."

The facts in the note were made public in Washington Monday night. In the meantime the British foreign office issued the following statement: "In view of the assertion made in the London Times that there was no truth in the concluding paragraph of the statement issued by the press bureau, the secretary of state considers it necessary to make public the facts."

Discourtesy Disavowed.
"The note had not been received at the foreign office up to a late hour on Tuesday evening. Communications, not telegraphic, received after 8 p. m. are not in the ordinary course opened and forwarded to the responsible executive officials unless there is some indication on the face of the note that it requires immediate attention. The note was not marked with the word 'immediate' or in any special way, and was opened on the ordinary course on the morning of the 30th."

"The suggestion contained in a further statement published by the Times today that it was intended to charge the American government with discourtesy is totally unfounded. There has been no discourtesy whatever on the part of the State Department at Washington, or of the American embassy in London. On the other hand, it must equally be understood that when the note was sent to the foreign office there was no discourtesy or delay there, either on the part of the officials or of the secretary of state. The answer will be drawn up as soon as possible and in the same friendly spirit as that of the American note."

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.
FLORIDA-AUGUSTA-CRA-SOUTH.
Electric Lighted Train Daily via Stand-
ard R. R. of South, 166 New York av. n.w.
-Adv.

TWO WIVES WEEP AT BEDSIDE OF HIS UNWED THIRD

Divorced and Legal Spouses
of Lawyer Visit Mother
of His Children.

NEAR DEATH FROM POISON

One Tot Dead and the Other
Cannot Live, Say
Physicians.

WOMEN GIRLHOOD FRIENDS

All Three Protest Love for Loris
Elton Rogers, Who Stays Outside
Door of Dying Woman.

Special to The Washington Herald.
New York, Dec. 31.—Neither Zola, in his cleverest fencing with human passions and emotions, nor Dostoevsky, in his gloomiest moments, has supplied the world with a drama like that which is being bitterly enacted today in a New York hospital, where a woman and one of her babies are dying of poison, and in whose morgue her other baby already lies cold in death.

The dying woman has not even the right to the name under which she is entered on the hospital records. It is Mrs. Loris Elton Rogers. Her dead daughter and the dying boy by her side have no legal right to the names they bear.

And yet, in the corridors of the hospital, in a corner screened from public view, sit two women of that same married name; one who uses it by right of a marital contract still in force, and one who clings to it despite a divorce decree which put out of her life the man who bestowed it on her.

Engage to Help Her.

Both are there because they pity the dying woman and are eager to do anything in their power to ease the tortures of mind and body that are making of her last hours on earth a veritable inferno.

Loris Elton Rogers is 36 years old. She is the man in the case; the queer, uncharted magnetic pole which set all asked the compasses by which three other lives were attempting to lay straight courses to the safe haven of home, husband and happiness.

Two of the women here married, and the first of the two bore him a son and divorced him. The third woman he did not marry, but she bore him a son and a daughter in the belief that he would wed her when he could divorce the second of his legal wives. But when this second wife, who was told all the facts of the illicit union, refused to consent to a divorce, and when it was plain that a third child would be added to the little menage, the "unwed wife" could stand it no longer.

Gave Poison to Tot.

Tuesday afternoon she obtained a quantity of bichloride of mercury tablets. One of these she mixed with sugar and gave to her son John, two and a half years old. Another, in sugar, she fed to Loretta, her eight-month-old baby daughter. The rest, amounting to nearly twenty-three grains of the poison, she swallowed herself. Then she called a doctor and told him what she had done. He rushed his three patients to the Lehighon Hospital, where the poisoned woman said she was Mrs. Loris Elton Rogers.

Perhaps if Mrs. Rogers had not sought to explain her act the subsequent exposure of the whole tragedy might have been avoided. Entered on the hospital books merely as an attempted suicide, she might have escaped all but a brief paragraph in the crowded columns of the New York newspapers. But she sought to conceal the true situation and when pressed for an explanation said that she had become so moody after reading the horrors of the European war that she thought "something had snapped" in her head.

This was news copy and every newspaper in New York printed the odd suicide story on its first page. And thus it was that the pseudonym Mrs. Loris Elton Rogers became a figure in the news life of the Metropolis.

First came Mrs. Loris Elton Rogers No. 2. She was the sister of Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, who holds the chair of sociology in Columbia University.

The news that a woman of that name, wife of a lawyer, had attempted suicide and had poisoned her two children in an humble home in the Bronx was a sensation in exclusive university circles along Riverside drive where it is heard.

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MERRY THRONGS GREET NEW YEAR IN MYRIAD WAYS

Citadel of Gloom Is Stormed
and 1914 Reported
Missing.

CROWDS AT BIG CAFES

Whistles and Bells and Toot-
ing Horns Proclaimed the
New Twelvemonth.

ALL CLASSES CELEBRATED

Mirth and Gayety Held Sway at
Dances, Theaters, Supper Tables,
Clubs, and on Streets.

The Citadel of Gloom was taken by storm, razed to the ground, and all its morose defenders put to the sword last night by Washingtonians bent on celebrating the advent of the year 1915. General Merriment was in command of the attacking forces. The noise of battle was terrific and nothing less. The smell of powder—the acrid kind—was in the air. The celebration and attack were undoubtedly a howling success.

The popping of corks and the snapping rifle fire of paper guns created havoc among the ranks of infelicity. The victory of mirth and gaiety was complete, owing largely to the abundant supply of "good spirits" supplied until 1 o'clock. The army of "blue devils" was successfully routed, and General Depression, commanding them, bound with colored paper ribbons, and thrown under the table. One battered old warrior, Nineteen-Fourteen, is reported missing this morning. Who cares? There's a new yearnour in our midst, and there is a chance for improvement of the world's condition in the course of 1915.

All Classes Celebrated.

Washingtonians of all classes celebrated. Those who did not go to the theater went to the large cafes for the festivities at midnight, or expressed their joy by promenade in Ninth street, dropping in for a couple of reels at the "movies," and winding up with an egg sandwich and a cup of coffee at an all night luncheon.

Whistles and bells all over the city started pandemonium at one minute before midnight. The dense crowds on the street, armed with cowbells and tin horns galore, took up the refrain and made the welkin resound. Cab horses went stark mad and street cars developed symptoms of hydrophobia, but nothing worse greeted the arrival of the New Year.

Carnival Held Sway.

At the Willard, carnival held sway bolstered up by Myer Davis' brass band. The usual joy and frivolity that always comes when headbanded men don paper hats swept in gales through the dining-rooms and puff good-by to sweet reason. Just before midnight the bugler blew taps, the lights abruptly ceased to shed brilliance over the scene, and the gayest of the shaded candle while the solemn strokes of 12 o'clock sounded. Then the revelle, the sudden appearance of big electric signs "Happy New Year," a toast to the new year, and "Auld Lang Syne" for the sake of the departing year. This ceremony completed the revelry continued. Santa Claus passed some more paper hats and tin whistles and the fun redoubled.

At the Raleigh the celebration was dignified, but just as happy. At the Shoreham every available space was cleared for dancing and dining. The new year was greeted just as gladly there. For those who preferred more dancing and less eating the Jardin de Danse proved useful and decidedly entertaining. At the Powhatan the celebration was much the same, a special military feature being provided in deference to the number of guests from army and navy circles.

Tran-la-la at Ebbitt.

At the Ebbitt House joy was everywhere tran-la-la-la-la. Men sane in private life gambled extravagantly among the tables in a tangle of paper ribbons; the women blew their horns in applause, and threw on more ribbons. The whistles that unroll and reveal a drollish little feather on the end also were present.

A number of private balls and parties, some of them elaborate affairs, were held in all parts of the city. At the Army and Navy Club the usual Thursday evening dancant was held, with an unusual attendance. At Harvey's two dining-rooms and two dance floors were kept crowded with happy merry-makers.

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FRENCH BATTLESHIP TORPEDOED; ALLIES ADVANCE IN ALSACE

GERMANS SMASH AT BZURA LINES

Berlin War Office Also Re-
ports Gains in the
Argonne.

WIN IN RAWKA DISTRICT

Officials Report Houses in Two Towns
Destroyed by Allies' Artillery.

By FREDERICK WERNER.

Berlin (By wire), Dec. 31.—An official statement, issued by the German war office this afternoon, says that the artillery of the allies has destroyed part of Westende, in Belgium, and that the big guns of the French have "systematically destroyed" Steinbach, in Upper Alsace.

According to the statement, the Germans have made material gains in the western part of the Argonne region, where they took several French trenches. Numerous French attacks around Rhims were repulsed. In the eastern theater of war, the statement says, the German army operating upon the Baura has been able to maintain its offensive. The announcement in full follows:

No Military Damage.

"In the western theater of war it was generally quiet on the coast yesterday. The enemy directed his fire upon Westende and destroyed part of the houses without causing any military damage."

"An entire French company was annihilated when we blew up a line of trenches near La Ferme d'Alger and Auberville, southeast of Rhims. Strong French attacks north of Unions-sur-Marne were repulsed everywhere."

"In the western part of the Argonne region we gained considerable ground, capturing several trenches, one behind the other. We took 256 French prisoners. French attacks in the region of Flirey, fourteen miles of Toul and nine miles west of Pont-a-Mousson, failed."

Losses Are Slight.

"In the region of West Senneheim, in Upper Alsace, all French attacks broke down under the fire of our artillery."

"The enemy's artillery systematically destroyed the houses in the village of Steinbach, which was in our possession. Our losses, however, were slight."

"Eastern theater of war: The situation in East Prussia and Poland, north of the Weichsel (Vistula), is unchanged. East of the Bzura the battle continues. Our offensive in the Rawka district is progressing. On the eastern bank of the Pilica the situation is unchanged."

The statement is signed by the chief of army administration.

Prince Eitel Friedrich, one of the sons of the Kaiser, has been promoted to command the first brigade of the Imperial guard.

FRENCH BATTLESHIP STRUCK BY TORPEDO

Paris Ministry of Marine Withholds
News of Disaster—Austrian War-
ship Also Damaged.

Paris, Dec. 31.—The ministry of marine states that a French battleship has been torpedoed in the Otranto Channel (between Italy and Albania). No details are given.

Venice, Dec. 31.—It is reported here that the Austrian battleship Viribus Unitis has been torpedoed by a French submarine in the harbor at Pola, but that the warship succeeded in reaching her dock.

It would have been necessary for the submarine to dive under several rows of mines to accomplish this feat. The Viribus Unitis is one of the biggest men-of-war in the Austrian navy, having a displacement of 20,000 tons and carrying a crew of 1,000 men.

'NEWSIES' GIVE CALENDARS.

The Herald Distributes Beautifully
Designed Art Treasure Today.

An artistically conceived and beautifully executed calendar for the new year has been prepared by the circulation department of The Washington Herald, and this morning scores of "newsies" will distribute the supply among the regular subscribers of the paper, together with the customary carriers' greeting of a happy and prosperous twelvemonth.

In the center of the calendar is a colored picture of a charming little girl, sitting natively on a stone bench in a blossoming garden with a forest background. Around the edges of the calendar are printed the months of the year, the intervening spaces being occupied by decorative work with a landscape and forest theme.

French Cut Way Into Steinbach in Fierce House-to-house Fight

Capture of Town, of Which Joffre's Troops Now Hold Half,
Will Give Allies Command of the Roads Leading to Altkirch and Muelhausen—Men Forced to Batter Way Through Streets While Defenders Poured Murderous Fire Upon Them from Windows and Housetops—Allies' Situation in Flanders Improved, Paris Reports—Success Is Won from St. Georges, Which the Allies Now Hold After Several Days of Heavy Fighting.

FRENCH DRIVE ON RHINE GAINS MOMENTUM; PARIS FINDS NEW YEAR'S CHEER IN NEWS

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Paris, Dec. 31.—Official news of the capture by storm of the village of Steinbach in upper Alsace, marking a further advance in this section and indicating that the French drive against the German defenses of the Rhine was being persistently followed up was the information which today's communique gave to Paris.

The French success at Steinbach was not easily won. Even the usually terse official phraseology emphasizes the desperate nature of the combat which resulted finally in half the village falling into the hands of the French invaders, by speaking of the "terrific house-to-house combat."

IN KEY TO ALSACE.

Steinbach, commanding the roads leading to Altkirch and Muelhausen is conceded to be the key position in the Alsatian theater of activity. Should the French succeed in driving the Germans entirely out of the town their further advance would be expedited, to say the least. Realizing this, the Germans had taken every precaution to strengthen their positions.

The French literally had to batter their way from one house to the next in dispossessing the defenders who, from machine guns on the roofs and in windows, kept up a galling fire to the last possible moment.

In Flanders and along the Franco-Belgian frontier the situation of the allies apparently continues to improve, despite the terse announcement in the official chronicles that "there is nothing to report" from this quarter.

VICTORY AT ST. GEORGES.

One of the most notable successes of the day is reported from the village of St. Georges, which the French troops finally have occupied after several days of stubborn fighting. In this they have been aided materially by the Belgian troops.

The occupation of the village had been impossible for days; although the French and Belgians had repeatedly forced the Germans to abandon it, they had in turn had been driven out themselves after partial victory.

Finally, however, by a terrific concentrated fire from the French and Belgian guns, the Germans were driven back to the edge of the canal, and the village, with the ground surrounding it, now remains in the possession of the allies.

Germans Take Up New Positions West of Warsaw

Petrograd, Dec. 31.—The German armies under Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Oberst General von Mackensen have been compelled to take up new positions by the vigor of the Russian attacks west of Warsaw.

The Austrian army under Gen. Boehm-Ermolli, which was sent to re-enforce the Austrians retreating through the Dukla Pass and envelop the left wing of the Russian army in the Carpathian Mountain district, has been broken up and is in danger of annihilation.

The Turkish army which had advanced into Transcaucasia to Sarikamish, forty-seven miles from the Turkish border, has been defeated after a two-day battle, and is in retreat.

Those are the salient features of official telegrams received by the Russian general staff today from field headquarters at Warsaw in the Russo-Austro-German theater of war and from Tiflis in the Russo-Turkish amphitheater of hostilities.

BRITAIN TO GIVE SILVER CROSS.

Establishes Decoration Similar to
Iron Cross of Germany.

London, Dec. 31.—A new decoration for bravery—a silver cross—calculated to have an effect upon English officers similar to that of the Iron cross upon German soldiers, has been established.

The official London Gazette tonight contains the text of a royal warrant instituting this decoration under the name of the "Military Cross" and stating that it is to be awarded to army officers of certain ranks for distinguished meritorious service.

The cross has an imperial crown upon each arm. In the center will be engraved the date of the deed for which the cross is awarded.

Jolly Twenty-Four Dance.

The Jolly Twenty-Four reigned supreme at the Old Masonic Temple last night with their annual New Year's Eve dance. The officers of the club are Al Shefferman, president; I. Meyerswitz, secretary, and Nathaniel Berman, treasurer.

Villa Imprisons Gen. Blanco.

Vera Cruz, Dec. 31.—A member of the Carranza government announces that Gen. Lucio Blanco, who remained in military command of Mexico City for some time after the withdrawal of the Carranza forces and pending the arrival of Zapata and Villalaz troops, has been put in prison at Gen. Villa's orders.